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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Novo Solo Airfield

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## SOURCE

1. Novo Selo is a village 23 km northwest of Vidin and thus a strategically important point with relation to Yugoslavia. The airfield is southeast of the village, south of the Vidin-Novo Selo road, in the triangle marked by Novo Selo with the villages of Ganzovo and Bregovo.
2. The field is 900 by 1,900 m. The terrain is open, the ground sandy, undrained but grass covered. There are no obstacles. The prevailing wind is northwest. There is no runway, and no direct railroad connection.
3. There are two staff buildings, each 10 by 20 m, and six or seven wooden barracks, including magazines. During the summer of 1953 a large number of tents were set up and men were brought in for a period of training which lasted until October.
4. There are no regular hangars, but there are large repair shops, mostly under canvas. There is no munitions magazine. The fuel depot is northeast of the field, between the Vidin-Novo Selo road and the Danube.
5. During the summer there were at the field two fighter companies whose station is normally Sofia; they were 180 to 190 men strong. Their planes were 16 and 17 YAKs. They were engaged in the most advanced training. The unit's auto park consisted of 9 or 10 trucks, 1.5-ton and 3-ton, 3 passenger cars and 4 tank trucks.
6. An air support company from Sofia of 100 to 110 men arrived in April 1953 and remained until October.
7. In March 1953 and auto drivers' school was moved to the field from Sofia. The drivers had to learn how to assemble their cars and took a good deal of political training. They were supplied with 4 Pobeda passenger cars, 9 ZIS trucks, 6 Soviet motorcycles and 2 jeeps.

-end-

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